

### Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

# Chapter 2 - Reading an R★STARS Report

### **PURPOSE**

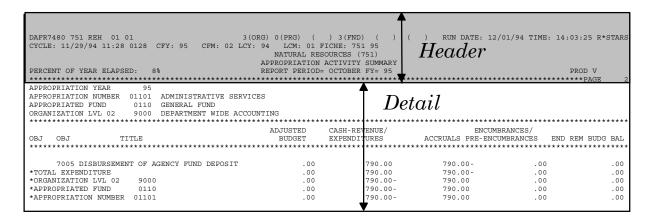
Requestable reports are the most widely used  $R \star STARS$  reports. The ability to read and understand the information contained on a  $R \star STARS$  report is critical to successfully utilize the financial tracking capabilities in  $R \star STARS$ . The purpose of this chapter is to describe how to effectively read and understand an  $R \star STARS$  report. This chapter describes the significance of both the report header information and the report detail information, and show the user how to read and understand this information.

Throughout this chapter, the DAFR7480 Appropriation Activity Summary Report is used as an example to highlight various report elements and describe their significance.

Section		Page	
2-1	Report Header Information	2-2	
2-2	Report Detail Information	2-9	
2-3	Analyzing Report Contents	2-13	
2-4	The R★STARS Reporting Process	2-15	

### Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

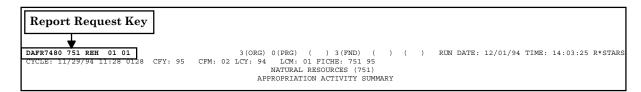
### 2-1 REPORT HEADER INFORMATION



R★STARS has a standard header for requestable financial reports. The report header is the first six lines of the report, and is comprised of several key data elements. These elements include:

- Report Request Key
- Level Options
- Run Information
- Cycle Information
- Current Fiscal Year/Month
- Last Closed Fiscal Year/Month
- Microfiche Key
- Agency Associated with the Data on the Report
- Report Title
- Percent of Fiscal Year Elapsed
- Report Period
- Region

#### **Report Request Key**



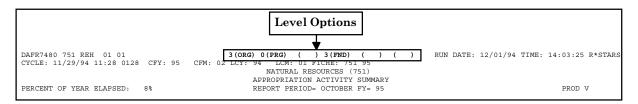
The report request key is comprised of four elements that describe the report request information. In the example above,



# Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

- "DAFR7480" is the Report ID of the report being requested, the Appropriation Activity Summary Report.
- "751" is the Agency Number that identifies the agency requesting the report.
- "REH" is the Requester Code entered on the report request. This code can be used to organize report request coding for an agency.
- "01" is the Request Number. The request number may be used to practically identify different versions of the same report for one requester and one agency.
- The second "01" represents the report period requested on the report. "01" is October, the first fiscal month of the fiscal year. Other values for period could include "CM" for current month or "PM" for prior month. These elements are controlled on the 91 Report Request profile.

#### Level of Detail Options



Level options define the level of detail of the classification elements presented on the report. Level of detail options include:

- Organization Structure
- Program Structure
- Fund Structure
- Function Structure
- Object Structure
- General Ledger Account Structure
- Grant Structure
- Project Structure



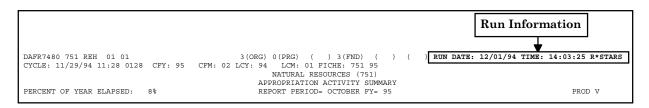
# Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

The level options for the DAFR7480 report in this example are as follows:

- "3 (ORG)" shows that the user selected an organization structure level option 3 (Level 2) for this report.
- "0 (PRG)" shows that the user selected a program structure level option 0 (None) for this report.
- "3 (FND)" shows that the user selected a fund structure level option 3 (GAAP Subfund/Appropriated Fund/State Fund Group) for this report.

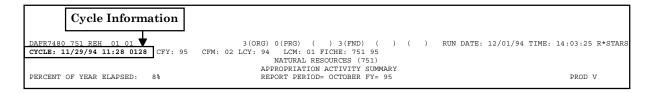
The three blank areas "( )" are for level options not associated with this particular report.

#### **Run Information**



Run information tells the user the date and time the report was run as well as the system accessed for the report. The run information is shown in the upper right section of the top line of each report. In the example above, the report was run on 12/01/94 at 14:03:25 p.m. (using 24 hour time). The run information also shows that the report was run in R $\star$ STARS.

#### **Cycle Information**



Cycle information on the report pertains to the cycle run associated with the information accessed for the report. In the example above, the information from the 97 System Management profile printed on the DAFR7480 report is associated with cycle 0128, which was run on 11/29/94 at 11:28 a.m. An example of the 97 System Management profile is shown below.

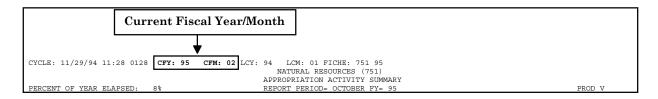
The 97 System Management profile identifies the number of times the batch cycle has been run. In this case, the report was produced after the 128th execution of the batch R★STARS IEU process. As a note of information, two cycles of batch IEU are executed each night. The date

### Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

shown on the report is the last processing cycle date and time from the 97 System Management profile.

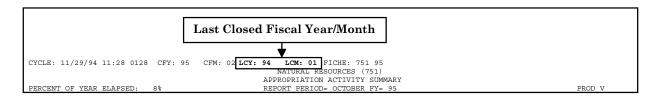
```
S097 VER 2.0
               STATE OF MICHIGAN PRODUCTION REGION (PMAIN)
                                                          12/01/94 10:14 AM
LINK TO:
                          SYSTEM MANAGEMENT PROFILE
 CURRENT INDICATORS -
                                    CONTROL INDICATORS -
    FISCAL YEAR: 95 MONTH: 03
                                         LABOR DISTRIBUTION RUN: N
                                    LABOR DISTRIBUTION PAY DATE:
       EFF DATE: 11281994
  PRIOR EFF DATE: 11251994
                                           YEAR END CLOSING RUN: N
           TIME: 0000
                                        NEW YEAR INITIALIZATION: N
 LAST CLOSED-
                     STAGE: 01
                                            COST ALLOCATION RUN: N
     FISCAL YEAR: 93 MONTH: 02
                                         GRANT/PROJ BILLING RUN: N
 REPORTING INDICATORS-
                                            RECURRING TRANS RUN:
             YEAR: N INAE: N
   WEEK: N
                                  FIXED ASSET DEPRECIATION RUN: N
  MONTH: N QUARTER: N CM YR: 09
                                   FIXED ASSET SUSPENSE RECONC: N
 ADVANCE PAYMENT DAYS-
                                      FIXED ASSET SUSPENSE POST: N
   WARR/CHK: 02 DIR DEP: 03
                                                 TAX OFFSET RUN: N
  BACKUP WITHHOLDING PCT: 00.31
                                                  MAX CHG TRANS: 10000
 NEXT AVAIL ARCH REF NO (XMITL)
                                   CURR: 95 000001
                                                    PRIOR: 94 000001
 NEXT AVAIL ARCH REF NO (NON-XMITL) CURR: 95 A00001
                                                    PRIOR: 94 A00001
  ----- BATCH RESTORE
CURRENT: DATE: 112994 TIME: 11:28 CYCLE: 0128
                                               INDICATOR (Y/N): N
  PRIOR: DATE: 112894 TIME: 03:07 CYCLE: 0127 ONLINE AVAILABLE: Y
 F1-HELP
            F9-INTERRUPT
                          F10-SAVE
                                     F11-SAVE/CLEAR
                                                     CLEAR-EXIT
```

#### **Current Fiscal Year/Month**



The report header shows the current fiscal year and current fiscal month associated with the 97 System Management profile at the time the report was produced. In the example above, "CFY 95" shows that the current fiscal year is 1995 and "CFM 02" shows that the current fiscal month in the 97 System Management profile is "02", November. Since Michigan's fiscal year begins on October 1 (CFM 01), "CFM 02" pertains to November.

#### Last Closed Fiscal Year/Month



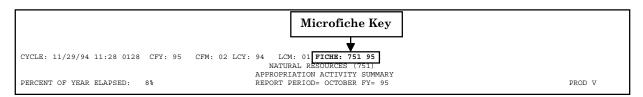
The report header shows the last closed fiscal year and last closed fiscal month in the 97 System Management profile at the time the report was produced. In the example above, "LCY 94" shows that the last closed fiscal year is 1994 and "LCM 01" shows that the last closed fiscal



# Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

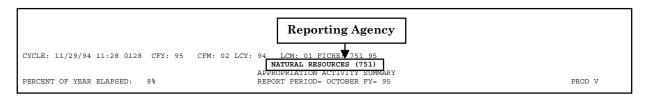
month at the time the report was produced was "01", October. Since Michigan's fiscal year begins on October 1, "LCM 01" means that the last closed month was October. "LCM 12" would indicate that September was the last closed fiscal month.

#### Microfiche Key



The microfiche key provides a key reference for use in microfiching reports. Michigan is currently using this header element for RMDS Report decollation.

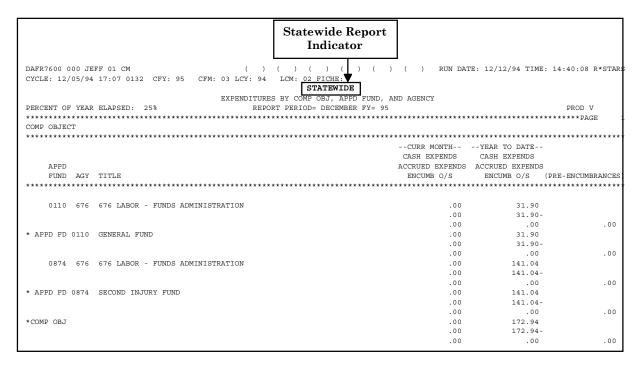
#### **Reporting Agency**



The reporting agency is the agency whose data is provided on the report. In the example above, the DAFR7480 Appropriation Activity Summary Report was run with Department of Natural Resources (MAIN FACS Agency 751) data. In many cases, the agency requesting the information (see Report Key above) is the same as the agency whose information is used to create the report. However, central control agencies like DMB and Treasury may request reports associated with another operating agency's information.

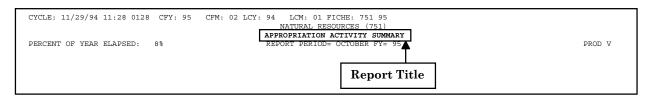
# Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

### **Statewide Reports**



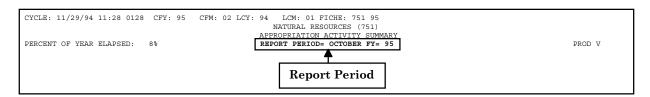
Statewide reports are indicated by the "STATEWIDE" indicator in the report title line.

### **Report Title**



The report title is provided in the header information of every report. The title is associated with the report number located in the report request key information (see above).

#### **Report Period**

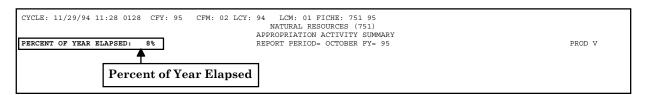




### Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

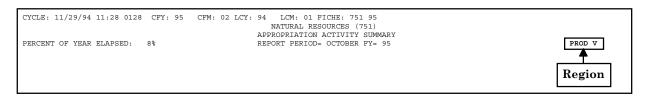
The report period provides the time period(s) associated with the report. In the example above, the report period "OCTOBER" means that the report was requested for the fiscal month of October. "FY=95" shows that the report was requested for fiscal year 1995.

#### **Percent of Fiscal Year Elapsed**



R $\star$ STARS report headers also provide the user an estimate of the percent of the fiscal year that has occurred. In the example above, approximately 8% of the fiscal year has elapsed. This is calculated as the month for the report ("01") divided by the number of calendar months in a fiscal year. Thus, in this example, 1/12 = 8 percent.

#### Region



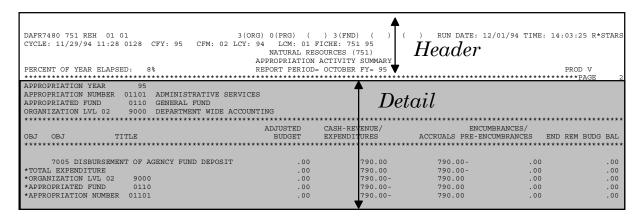
The region describes the region of MAIN FACS in which the report was produced. In the example above, "PROD V" means that the report was run in the Production Region of MAIN.



### Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

#### 2-2 REPORT DETAIL INFORMATION

The second part of an R★STARS report is the report detail information. Detail information consists of page break information, information elements and calculated financial fields.



# **Page Break Information**

Page break information describes the elements associated with each particular page of a report and the financial information it displays. The page break information is between the first and second row of asterisks on a requestable report.

The page break data for the DAFR7480 Appropriation Activity Summary is provided below.

```
APPROPRIATION YEAR 95
APPROPRIATION NUMBER 01101 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
APPROPRIATED FUND 0110 GENERAL FUND
ORGANIZATION LVL 02 9000 DEPARTMENT WIDE ACCOUNTING
```

In the example above, the following key page break elements are provided on the DAFR7480 Appropriation Activity Summary Report:

- Appropriation Year "95"
- Appropriation Number "01101 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES"
- Appropriated Fund "0110 GENERAL FUND"
- Organizational Level 02 "9000 DEPARTMENT-WIDE ACCOUNTING"

These key elements define what information is being provided on a specific page of the report. A new report page is produced whenever any of these elements have a different value.



# Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

The page break information for the DAFR7480 Appropriation Activity Summary Report is provided below.

SORT SEQUENCE	ELEMENT	TITLE LOOK UP	PAGE BREAK	SUB- TOTAL
SEQUENCE	ELEWIEN I	LOOK OF	DREAK	TOTAL
1	Agency	D02	Y	Y
2	<b>Appropriation Year</b>		Y	Y
3	Appropriation	20	Y	Y
	Number			
4	Appd Fund	D22	N	Y
5	Fund	D23	Y	Y
6	Organization Code	D03	Y	Y
7	Program Code	D04	Y	Y
8	Object	D10,D11	N	Y
		D01,D25		
		D09		
9	Object	D10,D11	N	Y
		D01,D25		
		D09		

Notice how the appropriation year, appropriation number, appropriated fund and organization code information is documented on the page break example above. However, the program element is not included in the example page break data of this report. This is due to the program level option being selected as "0" when the report was originally requested. Requesting a report with "0" in a level option field will suppress the element from the report.

#### **Information Elements**

The second part of the detail section of an R★STARS report is the information elements. In the example below, the Information Elements are pointed out for the DAFR7480 Appropriation Activity Summary Report.

J OBJ	TITLE	ADJUSTED BUDGET	CASH-REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES	ACCRUALS PRE-ENCU		EM BUDG BAL
******	*********	*******	******	******	******	******
	RSEMENT OF AGENCY FUND DEPOSIT	.00	790.00	790.00-	.00	.00
*TOTAL EXPENDITURE		.00	790.00	790.00-	.00	.00
RGANIZATION LV		.00	790.00-	790.00	.00	.00
PPROPRIATED FU		.00	790.00-	790.00	.00	.00
PPROPRIATION N	UMBER 01101	.00	790.00-	790.00	.00	.00
<b>↑</b>	Information Elements					

# Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

The information elements describe what is being reported and how the report data is broken down. The information elements in the above example include:

- Object
- Total Expenditures
- Organization Level
- Appropriated Fund
- Appropriation Number

On this particular report the column titled "OBJ" (Object) may include either the comptroller object, agency object or object depending upon the special select value entered in the 91 Report Request profile. In this example, the 91 Report Request profile has a special select of "C" for comptroller object. Therefore, the comptroller object is shown on the report.

The remaining information elements are subtotals for the page break items described above, which accumulate running totals down the report. Information elements that have subtotals are identified for each report in Chapter 3.

Note: This report has two columns labeled "OBJ". This is because the report supports the ability to display one object (e.g., comptroller object) or two objects (e.g., comptroller object and agency object).

#### **Calculated Financial Fields**

The last part of the detail section of an R★STARS report is the calculated financial fields. In the example below, the calculated financial fields are pointed out for the DAFR7480 Appropriation Activity Summary Report.

	Calculated Financial Fields			$\overline{lds}$	
OBJ OBJ TITLE	ADJUSTED BUDGET	CASH-REVENUE/ EXPENDITURES	ENCUMBI ACCRUALS PRE-ENCUM	MBRANCES END F	REM BUDG BAL
7005 DISBURSEMENT OF AGENCY FUND DEPOSIT	.00	790.00	790.00-	.00	.00
*TOTAL EXPENDITURE	.00	790.00	790.00-	.00	.00
*ORGANIZATION LVL 02 9000	.00	790.00-	790.00	.00	.00
*APPROPRIATED FUND 0110	.00	790.00-	790.00	.00	.00
*APPROPRIATION NUMBER 01101	.00	790.00-	790.00	.00	.00



# Page: **2-12**

# Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

The report example also has five calculated financial fields. They include:

- Adjusted Budget
- Cash Revenues/Expenditures
- Accruals
- Encumbrances/Pre-encumbrances
- Ending Remaining Budget Balance

Each of these elements are calculated based on the report's algorithm. The algorithms for each report are provided in Chapter 3.



Reading an R★STARS Report

Report Guide

Page: 2-13

### 2-3 ANALYZING REPORT CONTENTS

It is important to note that  $R \star STARS$  financial reports only contain valid data that has been successfully posted to the financial table being accessed by the report. Additional key information relevant to the report may not be posted to data included in the table(s) accessed by the report.

### **Edit Modes**

Transactions in edit mode "0", "1", or "3" on the IT file are not included in reports. The R★STARS financial tables, contain transactions in edit mode "2" and "4". The edit mode of a transaction can be seen on the 530 View Batch Headers in R★STARS.

Edit Mode "0"	Entered on-line and no edits. Or, submitted in a batch interface and in a status of "H" (hold) and never released.
Edit Mode "1"	Entered on-line and edited (basic profile edits) but not posted to the financial tables.
Edit Mode "2"	Entered on-line, edited and posted to the financial tables (appropriation, agency budget, project, grant, document, cash control, cash balance and cash forecasting) tables.
Edit Mode "3"	Originally recorded in edit mode "0" or "1" and released and processed through batch IEU. The transactions contained errors and are in the IT file and are not posted to the financial tables.
Edit Mode "4"	Originally entered in edit mode "0" or "1" and released and processed through batch IEU. The transactions have posted to the financial tables during the batch IEU process.

### **Accuracy of Information on the Report**

In addition, because information has been successfully posted into a particular table does not in any way guarantee that the information is accurate. Data displayed on a report is valid, indicating that the R★STARS edits and fund control tests were successfully passed at the time the transaction was posted. However, accuracy of the information contained on the report is the responsibility of the agencies. For example, use of an incorrect index code, if valid, will pass the edits but will result in inaccurate information.



Page: 2-14

# Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

It is critical that report information be reviewed by the individuals that are most familiar with the information being presented (typically the chief accountant, budget officer, etc.). Each agency should have an expert(s) that serves as a focal point for all reporting issues and is responsible for obtaining an intimate understanding of each report that they use to manage their agency.

#### **Cautions**

Agencies should never make any decisions on a report without completely understanding the Level of Detail Options and the Special Select Options used on the report. These two sets of options determine the content of a report. Depending on how the options are set, one report can literally be selected hundreds of ways. Users of R\*STARS reports should have a complete understanding of how a report was requested with regard to Level of Detail Options and Special Select Options before using a report.



Page: 2-15

# Report Guide Reading an R★STARS Report

### 2-4 THE R\*STARS REPORTING PROCESS

The State produces various reports at different frequencies depending on the information needs being addressed. For example, reports are currently produced with the following frequencies:

- Daily
- Weekly
- Monthly

Daily reports are typically used in the on-going operation of the State. These reports are used for many system management objectives including system balancing, transaction verification or transaction error correction. The majority of the daily reports are "control" reports, those that are automatically produced as part of the daily batch cycle. Some daily reports are "requestable" reports and are not automatically produced as part of the daily batch cycle. These reports must be requested via the 91 Report Request profile. However, daily reports (either "control" or "requestable") are typically used to manage on-going system operations. For example, the DAFR8450 System Reconciliation Report is requested on a daily basis and reviewed by the system operations staff to ensure the R\*STARS financial tables are in balance each morning prior to making the system available for users.

Weekly reports are those that have been requested to run on a weekly basis. Typically, these reports are summary level reports or profile listings. Transactions level reports should not typically be requested regularly on a weekly basis. It is recommended that agencies request summary level reports on a weekly basis to aid in monitoring remaining budget balances.

Monthly reports are typically the reports upon which users rely for monthly monitoring and other management information. Monthly reports provide either monthly transaction activity or year-to-date information, or both. It is vital that agency personnel request and review financial reports on a monthly basis to ascertain the agency's monthly financial position.